



Kevin H. Kirwin

September 19, 1954 - February 13, 2025

Kevin Herschede Kirwin, 70, died on February 13, 2025 at Monterey Health and Rehabilitation. Kevin was preceded in death by his father, Jack Kirwin. He is survived by his mother, Mary Frances Kirwin, siblings Tom and Meg of Columbus OH, and Beth (Anne Gilson) of Richmond, VA. Also, uncle, Spike Herschede, aunt, Erika Kirwin, and numerous cousins. Kevin was born and raised in Columbus, OH, the oldest of four siblings. He was a 1972 graduate of Upper Arlington High School and a 1976 graduate of the University of Cincinnati where he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Kevin's bright smile and infectious laugh made him hard to miss and easy to love. He was very social, had many friends and knew how to throw a party! To his family, Kevin was a fun and loving son, brother and cousin. He loved to help people. He was outgoing, kind, generous and loyal. Vocal music was a huge part of Kevin's life. He had a beautiful tenor voice. He was a founding member of the vocal group "Antiphony" at UAHS. He sang in choirs and musical productions and at friend's weddings. Kevin was a talented singer, dancer and an accomplished pianist. Kevin's love of all things in the Arts was apparent by his board participation. His love for Columbus fixtures such as Ballet Met, the Columbus Symphony, Columbus Museum of Art (and the young people's support group "Junior Council") and Opera Columbus was impossible to miss. He also loved what's now Columbus Jazz Arts Group. Kevin was part of Vaud-Villities which provided him with more opportunities to sing, dance, make friends and have fun. He was an ambassador for the Columbus Host

Program, where he showcased Columbus to visiting performing artists. Kevin was proud of his hometown. In 1988, he introduced his siblings to Shadowbox Live Theater. The family tradition of attending Holiday Hoopla the day after Thanksgiving continues after 30+ years – long after Kevin was no longer able to attend. After college, Kevin realized that he always wanted to be a realtor. After gaining several years of experience, he was hired at King Thompson. Kevin was thrilled. He had long aspired to work at King Thompson. Kevin received numerous recognitions and awards and as the industry shifted, Kevin eventually moved to Re/Max Premier Choice with Debbie Bower. In 2000, Kevin started to change and in 2007, a MRI showed frontotemporal dementia. He lived the next 18 years in nursing homes. It was a 25-year journey of slowly losing Kevin. We want to thank the staff at Monterey Health and Rehab, and Bella Care Hospice nurses and chaplain for so lovingly caring for Kevin and for being so kind to our family. Thank you to the UAHS Class of '72 members who wanted to include Kevin in their 50th class reunion by visiting him in the nursing home – knowing that Kevin was nonverbal and that he might not recognize them. And finally, thanks to Edie Rader Blough, class of '72, for offering so much love and support to Kevin and our family through the years. There will be a Celebration of Life for Kevin on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at 2:00 pm at Rutherford Funeral Home at 515 High Street Worthington, OH 43085. All are welcome and encouraged to share stories, memories and wear colorful clothes. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Inc. at www.alz.org or Celebrate Life Foundation at Bella Care Hospice at www.bellacarehospice.net

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN 21. 2:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085

Tribute Wall

JK

“ On behalf of all of us at Shadowbox Live, we were so sorry to hear of Kevin's passing but know he's at peace and again finding love, laughter and music in the next chapter. We're grateful he found us and enjoyed so many shows with his friends and family. The Shadowbox veterans (old timers) fondly remember the many Kirwin and friends gatherings at Shadowbox over so many years and love the "day after Thanksgiving" tradition that was started and continues. Sending you all hugs, peace and love. All were blessed to have Kevin in their lives. Fond memories!

Julie Klein - February 23, 2025 at 04:31 PM

TT

“ Kevin was my first roommate at the Phi Delta Theta house my freshman year at University of Cincinnati. He was two years older, but we quickly became best friends. I have loved and cherished my relationship with he and his family with visits to both Columbus, in Ft Myers and when they vacationed in Key West, I will miss him and continue to think of him often Sending love to his Mother, and Beth and Meg and Tom and the rest of the family. May he now rest in peace

Terry Tincher - February 20, 2025 at 09:45 PM

TW

“ Cathy and I are saddened by the news of Kevin's passing. He was always so much fun and energetic. We spent several evenings at Shadowbox with Kevin and friends as well parties. He will be missed.

tom wiley - February 20, 2025 at 03:22 PM

MT

I first met Kevin when he worked at the bank at the corner of NW Blvd. and Lane Avenue (the bank has been gone for many years). He was very generous with his smile and good nature. He had a radiant personality. God bless him and his family.

Marti Trudeau, Philadelphia and UAHS class of '72.

Marti Trudeau - February 21, 2025 at 06:22 AM

LC

I did not know Kevin personally but we were occasionally at the same musical/cultural events such as CSO, Opera Columbus, etc. and I sometimes wondered what had happened to him when I did not see him anymore.

I recall that he started The Conductors Club (or similar name) to encourage younger (20's - 30's) to support cultural organizations. He could often be seen at the Opera with Mrs. Fran Luckoff.

My condolences to his family.

L Clark

L Clark - February 21, 2025 at 05:16 PM

KS

Pete and I knew there would always be laughter and I would possibly wet my pants (oh) when attending any party or event with Kevin & co. He was always laughing smiling telling jokes and the life of "the party". We are thankful Meg and the family always included us and made us feel like family. Shadowbox events were the best and we always had extra entertainment with Kevin at the table. We are saddened by the loss but heaven gained an angel and he is free now from the despair of dementia. Our condolences to Meg, Beth, Tom and Mary Frances.

Pete and Kristi Schumacher

Kristi Schumacher - February 21, 2025 at 06:34 PM

TS

Kevin was not just my realtor but a very dear friend who brought a lot of light to an otherwise dreary world. My family and I have missed him for years. So glad he has peace now. Many blessings to those who mourn him.

Theresa Schaefer - February 25, 2025 at 09:54 AM